

and its role in the Bay Area. He was an especially important advisor during our consideration of the Affordable Care Act. He was always laser focused on providing the best possible care for as many Americans as possible while maneuvering the complex financing of our health care system.

UCSF is a health machine built to fight a global pandemic. From early research into the technology that led to the vaccines to testing capacity and early healthcare directives, having UCSF Health in San Francisco fighting SARS-CoV-2 and its deadly progeny, COVID-19, likely saved thousands of lives in our region. Mark Laret has been the voice of authority, compassion, and leadership during this crisis and in every discussion about quality health care reform. In the many years that he has advised me, he was always trustworthy, informative, and persuasive. I have the deepest respect and admiration for his intellect and integrity.

From a small research and treatment campus on a hill and a few isolated campuses elsewhere, to a bustling regional powerhouse and global standard setter, UCSF Health prospered tremendously under the tenure of Mark Laret. After 21 years at the helm of this prestigious healthcare institution, it's now time to say goodbye to an historic leader. Let it be known that a humanitarian is retiring who can now spend more of his time with his beloved wife Jan Laret and their son Parker and daughter Casey. His duty having been accomplished with grace, his rest is justly earned.

#### RECOGNIZING DECEMBER 1ST AS WORLD AIDS DAY

#### HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 1, 2021*

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize December 1, 2021, as World AIDS Day. This is the 33rd year that the world will come together to raise awareness about preventive measures for HIV and AIDS.

World AIDS Day has been observed globally since 1988, bringing attention to the HIV epidemic and speaking out against the stigma surrounding HIV and AIDS. This day is a call to end the HIV epidemic in the United States and across the globe. This year's theme of "Ending the HIV Epidemic Equitable Access. Everyone's Voice" emphasizes the significance of working together to achieve an AIDS-free generation. Recent progress for prevention and treatment tools provides us with the unprecedented opportunity to end the epidemic.

Since 2010, deaths from HIV/AIDS have fallen by 48 percent in the United States, but we still have work to do. We must continue to educate and spread awareness about HIV and AIDS prevention measures. Of the approximate 1.2 million people living with HIV in the United States, 13 percent do not know they have HIV. It is imperative to implement programs at the local level to diagnose, treat, prevent, and respond to HIV. Together, we can end this.

This is also a time to remember those we lost to HIV-related illnesses. The actions of groups across the country have helped bring

us closer to our common goal. This year, the Rio Grande Valley's own Basilica of Our Life San Juan del Valle will be commemorating the lives lost to HIV/AIDS and marking the 30th anniversary of this event founded by Francisco Mendez.

Madam Speaker, I stand here today to acknowledge the hard work of those in South Texas and across the world to end the HIV epidemic and to recognize December 1, 2021, as World AIDS Day.

#### CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROYAL OAK, MICHIGAN

#### HON. ANDY LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 1, 2021*

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join residents and city leaders past and present in celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of Royal Oak, Michigan.

On November 8, 1921, residents voted to adopt a city charter, turning the then Village of Royal Oak into the City of Royal Oak. At that time, they elected a mayor and a city commission, who brought the City of Royal Oak to life. The first Mayor of Royal Oak, George Dondero, had previously served the Village of Royal Oak, and later went on to be elected to the 73rd United States Congress.

Over the past century, the City of Royal Oak has undergone a far-reaching transformation, and today is an energetic city filled with businesses, attractions, and almost 60,000 residents. It is now the eighth largest city in Oakland County and has been recognized as one of the most exciting, safest, and best places to live in Michigan. Royal Oak is home to a wonderful public library, Oakland Community College, the Detroit Zoological Park, Beaumont Hospital, and more than 50 public parks for all to enjoy. The City has made significant initiatives towards diversity and inclusion, towards green infrastructure and environmental friendliness, and towards supporting the many small businesses in Royal Oak. On a personal note, Royal Oak is special to my family for another reason—my father, former U.S. Representative Sander Levin, is a longtime resident of the City and, like me, was proud to represent its residents in Congress.

I have no doubt that the next century will bring continued achievements, growth, and prosperity to the City of Royal Oak and its people, and I invite my colleagues to join me in commemorating the centennial of this vibrant community in Michigan's Ninth District.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF ROBERT JAMES HANSON

#### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 1, 2021*

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Robert James Hanson, a resident of La Honda, California, a beloved Menlo Park merchant and a longtime friend.

Bob Hanson was born in Kansas on November 17, 1953, to Vivian and Robert Han-

son, and died on October 4, 2021, in Palo Alto, California. He is survived by his wife, Katie and his three children, Maddie, R.J. and Mathew. He is also survived by his mother, 3 siblings, his beloved granddaughter Agnes and many nephews and nieces.

Bob was a graduate of the University of Kansas and while in college worked at Mister Guys, a job that led him to a successful career in the clothing business. Bob and his wife Katie met while they were both working at the Ralph Lauren store in the Stanford Shopping Center. Bob said they were "struck by the entrepreneurial spirit" and in 1990 they founded Afterwards, a pioneering clothing consignment shop located in the heart of the Menlo Park business district. They later expanded into an adjacent property to sell home furnishings.

Those who knew Bob describe him as warm, friendly, engaging and classy, a wonderful man who always made time to chat. He had exceptional taste, a gentle smile, charm and was always ready with a quick witicism. He was the consummate businessman who always made his clients feel welcome and appreciated. He was all of this and more.

Madam Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in expressing our deepest condolences to the entire Hanson family. It is my hope that these words and those of so many others will bring solace to them as they grieve the loss of this wonderful man.

#### CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS INSTITUTE HONORS DAN MALDONADO

#### HON. NANETTE DIAZ BARRAGÁN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 1, 2021*

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Madam Speaker, in every generation, there are people whose names may not make the paper every day, but whose actions and legacy make an immeasurable impact felt by the entire community. Dan Maldonado is one of those people. In honoring him, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute is recognizing his lifelong dedication to public service and his trailblazing record, and ensuring that his contributions are remembered for generations to come.

If there's one word that can describe Dan, "vision" comes to mind. He was one of the first—if not the first—Latino Chiefs of Staff in the U.S. House of Representatives. He also helped create the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) and the National Association of Latino Elected Officials (NALEO). These groups have grown from their humble roots to become leaders in amplifying the organized voices of Latino public officials and cementing the Latino community's place in the public sphere. In large part, we have Dan to thank for that.

Dan's service didn't end with Capitol Hill. He also worked in the Carter Administration as the Director of Legislation for ACTION/Peace Corps, helping to promote America's image abroad and cultivate our country's next generation of leaders.

There is one story in particular that highlights the kind of person Dan is. In 1982, he served as the Chief of Staff for Latino Congressman Edward Roybal from Los Angeles.